

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to remove a typographical error. The claims have been amended to remove improper multiple dependencies.


Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  # 39,491
Michael K. Mutter, #29,680

MKM/jaf
1906-0119P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment(s): VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning on page 7, line 10, has been amended as follows:

Fig. 1 is an illustration of macroblocks in adjacent frames;

Fig. 2 is an illustration of blocks spatially neighbouring a central block;

Fig. 3 is a motion vector graph;

Fig. 4 is an illustration of neighbouring blocks;

Fig. 5 is a schematic block diagram of a mobile phone;

Fig. 6 is a flow diagram;

Fig. 7 is a diagram illustrating neighbouring blocks;

Fig. 8 is a motion vector graph showing motion vectors;

Fig. 9 is a diagram illustrating weighting of neighbouring blocks;

Fig. 10 is a diagram corresponding to Fig. 9 illustrating weighting of blocks;

Fig. 11 is a diagram illustrating corresponding macroblocks in two successive frames;

Fig. 12 is a diagram corresponding to Fig. 11 illustrating weighting of blocks;

Fig. 13 is a diagram illustrating weighting of motion vectors according to distance;

Fig. 14 is a diagram of motion vectors;

Fig. 15 is another diagram of motion vectors;

Fig. 16 is another diagram of motion vectors;

Fig. 17 is another diagram of motion vectors;

Fig. [19] 18 is a diagram of corresponding macroblocks in two successive frames.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any preceding claim] claim 1, comprising deriving an estimated motion vector from the first set of vectors, comparing the candidate vectors with the estimated motion vector and selecting one of the candidate vectors on the basis of similarity to said estimated vector.

7. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 4 to 6] claim 4, wherein the estimated motion vector is the mean of two or more or all of the elements of said first set.

10. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any preceding claim] claim 1, wherein the selection takes into account motion boundaries.

11. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any preceding claim] claim 1, wherein said analysis comprises comparing the motion vectors of neighbouring image blocks in the same frame with the corresponding motion vectors in the preceding or subsequent frame, and determining the approximation of motion vector according to the results of the comparison.

14. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 11 to 13] claim 11, comprising approximating the motion vector using motion vectors from neighbouring blocks in the same frame and motion vectors in the preceding or subsequent frame.

15. (Amended) A computer program for executing a method as claimed in [any preceding claim] claim 1.

17. (Amended) Apparatus adapted to execute a method as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 15] claim 1.